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2009 ARRA- Stimulus Update

March 2009

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American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

By Christine Zoppi

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The Colusa-Glenn-Trinity Community Action Partnership's (The Partnership) staff are preparing for the imminent release of Stimulus funds. As Kim has reported in recent Partnership board meetings, The Partnership is expecting to see Stimulus funds resulting in significant increases for Housing, Energy and Employment Programs. We expect to see funds for other program areas as well, but do not anticipate as significant of an impact as with these programs.

To get ready, The Partnership is planning strategies to move the

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ARRA Funding Levels & Accountability

By Christine Zoppi

So far the saying is, "we just don't know yet..." State staff has been working hard to keep us informed about the pending release of Stimulus funds. We know that we don't have all the answers yet, but we do have some information to beginning planning efforts.

To sum it up, we expect to see up to a 3,000% increase in some small programs, double the funding for some and no change in others. What this means for us:

Housing and Energy Programs: for 2009, we anticipate as much as a 1.2 million dollar increase.

Employment Programs for youth and adults: Local amounts TBD: But OneStops are expecting to implement 2009 Summer Youth and anticipate increases for adult programs as well.

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"You can find more
information at
www.recovery.gov or
www.recovery.ca.gov"

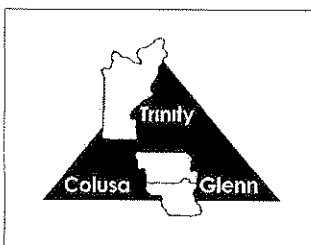
Action so far...

By Christine Zoppi

To begin the planning efforts-staff is busy with the following:

1. Outreach to building contractors in Colusa, Glenn and Trinity counties to assess their interest and capacity to work in partnership through contract to weatherize homes in 2009 and 2010 to meet the increased production levels.
2. The Partnership is currently recruiting for two (2) Public Service Employees to assist crews. Job announcements went out March 4, 2009 to Colusa, Glenn and Trinity OneStops and newspapers.
3. The Partnership has released a Request for Proposal in Colusa and Trinity Counties which asks respondents to state how they might use Stimulus funds in case they come available and state the amount requested.
4. Staff have drafted and begun implementing a revised internal management and unit structure to ensure that compliance, accountability and capacity is achieved.
5. The Partnership is actively exploring use of contracts with CSU Chico and/or private firms to evaluate results and accountability of efforts.
6. We have developed and submitted resolutions to the Governing Board for support of the pending stimulus releases.
7. Outreach with partners to gather interest in competitive Stimulus funds.
8. An expanded Job Development RFP is pending.
9. Exploring partnerships with Green Training firms.

"The phones are ringing off the hook, wanting job applications."



Colusa-Glenn-Trinity CAP

This is just the beginning of a long and effective next three years.

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money quickly in response to the call to preserve and increase jobs, to jump start our local economy, increase private-public partnerships, promote and train individuals for "green and alternative energy" jobs, improve the long-term energy consumption by households, hence reducing our reliance on foreign oil, and to provide direct assistance to those most impacted by this economic downturn.

As we move forward to implementation, staff will be bringing action items forward to the CAP Board and the Glenn County Governing Board as appropriate. Staff appreciates your continued support.



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We expect to see increases in Community Services Block Grant funds for the purposes of linking programs, developing agency capacity to respond, assisting those most in need, coordinating regional and local efforts to promote training, new initiatives and sustaining current effective programs, systems and strategies.

Funds will also be available on a competitive basis. We anticipate significantly increased funds for homeless programs, and for homeless prevention programs. We will work with Trinity and Colusa providers in application as appropriate.

What we also know is that some state agencies will be requesting local plans. Community Services and Development (CSD) will be expecting us to respond within one-week following their direction from the federal government, which they expect any day. They have asked us to prepare local implementation plans that are in line with the funding requirements. They indicated that the stimulus funds will have distinct reporting requirements and must be managed in a separate budget from regular formula funds for the same purpose.

TRANSPARENCY and ACCOUNTABILITY is the word all around. I can't state enough the emphasis being placed on government's role and expectation for local results and a transparency as to how these funds will be and are ultimately utilized.

There will be many challenges ahead, but know that your Community Action staff team is excited to carry out the work of the ARRA. The team has been incredible, they have great attitudes and frankly, although workloads are already at capacity, they have been performing at maximum levels and giving more and more each day. This level of energy can't be sustained indefinitely, but they are hanging in there until we bring on some support staff to the dramatically increased administrative workload associated with this effort.

JOBS-ECONOMY-ASSISTANCE-PEOPLE-RESULTS

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*"Transparency and
accountability is the buzz
and the business to
come."*
